From: <u>Carol Everett</u>

To: <u>Andria Franco</u>; <u>Katherine Yoder</u>; <u>Jonathan Hurst</u>

Subject: Pregnancy Center email

Date: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 3:38:01 PM

This just went out to 165 lfie-affirming pregnancy resource centers in Texas - Press conferences will have pregnancy center directors and women who may have been WHP patients or young low-income women who do not want to go to Planned Parenthood.

Austin Press Conference is full!

Carol

Friends,

As you are aware, Texas is in a battle with the Obama administration over the Women's Health Program (WHP). This is an annual well-woman examination for low-income women (who do not qualify for Medicaid). Services include a history physical, limited STD testing, hypertension, diabetes, breast and cervical cancer screenings. Contraceptives can be prescribed. WHP is advantageous to working poor women and to Texas because we only pay 10% of the cost of services.

The 82 nd Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 7 which prohibited abortion providers and affiliates from providing WHP services – costing Planned Parenthood of Texas \$17 million in annual funding. (This combined with the three Tiers law in SB 7 for Family Planning funds eliminates a total of \$30 million annually out of Planned Parenthood bank accounts – which I personally believe should help save 30,000 babies this year and direct mothers to your doors!)

The Obama administration warned Governor Perry and Health and Human Services Commission Tom Suehs they would cut funding for the entire program if abortion providers and affiliates were not included.

Only forty-four Planned Parenthood facilities located in population centers will be eliminated, while over 2,500 comprehensive and primary care providers located across Texas, including rural areas, will serve low income women with Women's Health Program services.

Thankfully Governor Perry and Commissioner Suehs are standing strong. Texas law does not allow abortion providers and affiliates to provides services. Now the Obama administration and Planned Parenthood are doing everything they can to blame Governor Perry by claiming women will be hurt because of this.

Planned Parenthood is holding press conferences across the state and today has a bus traveling from the Valley to San Marcos, Austin and on. Every day they email their people to email the Governor's office one more time for a total of 4,400 negative emails at 5:00 pm last night in comparison to 400 positive responses. They have taken a poll (We all know polls are slanted by the manner in which questions are asked.) which show 58% of Texas disapprove of defunding abortion providers and affiliates.

The Governor and Commissioner Suehs are being beaten up badly!

Now it falls to us.

No, we are not political but we are pro-life and this is going to increase our patient load!

We are the pro-life providers of pregnancy evaluations including pregnancy tests and sonograms. Some Centers offer STD testing. We know the women. We can help our Governor and Commissioner stand strong and turn the tide on the Planned Parenthood media rush.

Please consult your Board. As an individual we still have the opportunity to state our opinions.

First, Friends, let thank the man who has positioned us to save more babies' lives this year. Please go on line to the Governor's web email at http://governor.state.tx.us/contact. In a few words thank the Governor's standing for Texas law and life by defunding abortion providers and affiliates. Thank him for providing low income women with a higher standard of health care by eliminating abortion providers and affiliates who offer limited services by only mid-level providers with no mammogram equipment.

Second, do you know women who might have been Women's Health Program patients who might be willing to stand with us to say they do not want their health care services provided by Planned Parenthood? We need several from Central Texas, Dallas, and Houston.

Third, if your Board approves, will you stand with other directors and women in a press conference to thank Governor Perry, share about the services of life-affirming pregnancy centers and the fact that Texas women deserve comprehensive and primary health care rather than limited family planning services.

Press Conference Schedule:

Thursday at 10:00 am at Austin LifeCare, 12115 West Anderson Lane, Austin, Texas 78758

Contact Terry Williams at 512-396-3020

Thursday at 3:00 pm at The Source for Women, 3625 Gager Street, Houston, Texas 77093

Contact Cynthia Wenz at cwenz@thesourceforwomen.org or call Carol Everett at 512-255-2088

Monday at 10:00 am at Downtown Pregnancy Center, 525 North Ervay Street, Dallas, Texas 75201

Contact Carolyn Cline at 214-969-2433

Please pray for the Lord's hand to lead and speak through each person. Please participate. Bring your literature and share the work of your center.

Pray the Lord will bring the truth to light and women will have life-affirming medical care
Blessings,
Carol